

Message Text

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ACTION EB-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

AID-20 IO-13 TRSE-00 SCI-06 EPA-04 OMB-01 XMB-07

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R 171445Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6503

USDOC

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E. O. 11652: N/A DECONTROL ON RECEIPT

TAGS: BEXP, MI

SUBJ: VIPYA PULPWOOD INDUSTRY

REF: STATE A-7618

MBABANE FOR OSARAC; NAIROBI FOR REDSO/EA

DEPT PASS AID

1. SUMMARY: TWO YEAR PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES OF VIPYA PULPWOOD INDUSTRY PROPOSED BY UNDP BEGINNING THIS MONTH. THIS IS IMMEDIATE RESULT UNDP/IBRD "PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY" WHICH RECOMMENDED PROJECT FAVORABLY.

2. SINCE 1963 SEVERAL STUDIES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED RE POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL PULPWOOD SCHEME ON NORTHERN MALAWI'S VIPYA PLATEAU. UNDP FINANCED MOST EXHAUSTIVE STUDY NOV 72 - AUG 73 BY JAAKKO POYRY COMPANY (OF FINLAND) WHICH CONCLUDED CONSTRUCTION OF KRAFT PULP MILL AT CHINTECHE FOR COMMENCEMENT 1980 IS TECHNICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY VIABLE. PRODUCTION WILL BE 180,000 METRIC TONS ANNUALLY OF BLEACHED LONG FIBRE PULP
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FOR EXPORT. PROJECT IS EXPECTED GENERATE NET ANNUAL FOREIGN

EXCHANGE EARNINGS NEAR \$30 MILLION AND PROVIDE DIRECT EMPLOYMENT FOR 7,000. TOTAL INVESTMENT ESTIMATED \$147 MILLION 1973 PRICES. FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION EXPECTED 1975. BRITISH ODA ASSISTED ESTABLISHMENT 24,000 HECTARES PINUS PATULA AND PINUS ELLIOTTII SINCE 1964 WITH 8,500 HECTARES MORE PLANNED BY 1977.

3. UNDP PROPOSED SEPT 13 \$1.2 MILLION TWO YEAR PROJECT OF PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES INCLUDING FOLLOWING SUB-CONTRACTS:

A. FUEL AND POWER STUDY, TWO PHASES, \$260,000. WILL CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES LOCAL FUEL WOOD, IMPORTED FUEL, LOCALLY GENERATED HYDROPOWER.

B. MILL DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT STUDY, TWO PHASES, \$340,000.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL STUDY, \$30,000. WILL RECOMMEND AIR AND WATER PROTECTION STANDARDS AND ESTABLISH MONITORING PLAN FOR MILL AND HARBOR SITES AT CHINTECHE.

D. HYDROLOGICAL AND SOIL INVESTIGATIONS STUDY FOR MILL AND HARBOR SITES, \$100,000.

E. FOREST INVENTORY AND SITE CLASSIFICATION STUDY, \$35,000. WILL PREPARE INVENTORY EXISTING 24,000 HECTARES AND CLASSIFY 40,000 PROPOSED ADDITIONAL HECTARES. COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY INSTITUTE ANTICIPATED AS EXECUTING ORGANIZATION.

F. WOOD EXTRACTION STUDY PROPOSES SEND TWO GOM OFFICIALS NOV/DEC STUDY WOOD EXTRACTION BY OXEN IN CHILE, \$4,000.

G. TRAINING SEGMENT PROPOSES SIX MALAWIANS BE SENT CIVIL, CHEMICAL, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TRAINING TO ENSURE STAFFING FOR MILL.

4. EXECUTING AGENCY HEADQUARTERS TO SELECT SHORT LIST SUB-CONTRACTORS AND AWARD CONTRACTS WITHIN NEXT TWO MONTHS FOR PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES A, B, C; THREE MONTHS FOR D. NEGOTIATIONS FOR E EXPECTED IN ONE MONTH. EXECUTING AGENCY IS FAO; LOCAL COOPERATING AGENCY IS MALAWI MINISTRY AGRICULTURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

5. POTENTIAL U.S. SUBCONTRACTORS SHOULD CONTACT FAO HEADQUARTERS AND SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, BOX 628, LILONGWE, MALAWI.

6. COPY PROJECT PROPOSAL POUCHED SEPT 18 TO AF/E, AID/W, OSARAC, REDSO, COM/BIC.

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